THE
U.F.A.
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
THE UNITED FARMERS of ALBERTA

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Directors of U.F.A. and U.F.W.A. Give Valuable Assistance in Poultry Pool Drive

U. F. A. Pledge of Assistance Splendidly Carried Out Since Annual Convention—Work Done Through U.F.A. Machinery With Maximum Economy

By Mrs. F. E. Wyman, Secretary of the Poultry Pool

In the article below Mrs. Wyman describes the progress being made by the Poultry Pool, which, working in close collaboration with U. F. W. A. and U. F. A. Directors, has been carrying on an active membership campaign for some time past, the expense allowances of the U. F. A. and U. F. W. A. Directors being pro-rated with those of the Pool.

Mrs. Wyman refers to the particularly fine work which has been done by Mr. H. C. McDaniel, U. F. A. Director for Medicine Hat. As the Poultry Pool is situated in the same building as the U. F. A. and Wheat Pool offices, continuous co-operation between these organizations has been possible, and has signally contributed to the success of the work which is being carried on.

Last Saturday morning one procession of 2,214 bidders came marching gaily into the head office of the Egg and Poultry Pool. They were not looking for the Pool; they were already in it, ready for business, and brought their passports.

These were in the shape of signed contracts procured by Mr. H. C. McDaniel, of Whitla, U. F. A. Director for Medicine Hat, and Director for Poultry Pool District No. 1. Mr. McDaniel has been holding a series of meetings in the Medicine Hat district, making a thorough canvass as he went along. Committees have been left in charge at the various points touched, who will forward contracts to the Pool office as they are signed up.

COMMITTEE FINANCED BY THE U. F. A.

The U. F. A. Convention held last January in Calgary went on record as favoring the organization of the trio of Pools (Livestock, Dairy and Poultry) which the previous Convention at Edmonton had called into being by requesting the appointment, by the U. F. A. Executive, of an investigating committee with power to act and organize said Pools. This committee was financed by the U. F. A. organization to the amount of $700.

The last U. F. A. Convention by resolution also offered "Our assistance and influence in procuring the necessary number of signed contracts to insure the successful operation of these Pools."

It may be of interest to our membership as a whole to know how this pledge has been carried out during the past two months by the U. F. A. organization, mother of all the Pools, as represented by the Executive and other officers of the U. F. A.

Speaking particularly of the Egg and Poultry Pool, which the writer represents as one of the Executive, the Board of Directors of the U. F. A. kindly consented to allow the Poultry Pool the use of the room set apart at Central for the U. F. W. A. work. This included the use of typewriter, telephone and a thousand-and-one helps which the staff of the U. F. A. is naturally in a position to give.

Our big brother, the Wheat Pool, living next door to us, has been most considerate and has given us the benefit of experience gained while travelling the same road, only a little ahead of us.

EXPENSE ALLOWANCE PRO-RATED; CORRESPONDENCE INTERMINGLED

The expense allowance of the secretary of the Poultry Pool has, except in special Pool work, been pro-rated equally between the U. F. W. A. and the Poultry Pool. This became necessary from the fact that in most of the correspondence reaching the office matters of U. F. A. and U. F. W. A. organization work and Poultry work were closely intermingled; so much so that it is frequently a question whether letters should be placed in the files of the U. F. A. or the Pool.

The expense allowances of the U. F. A. and U. F. W. A. Directors has been pro-rated in the same way, except in cases where meetings have been held in their own directorate, in which cases the whole charge has been met by the U. F. A. organization.

JOINT EFFORT PROVES THE MOST ECONOMICAL

It has been the policy of the Poultry Pool when Locals have asked for speakers, to use our own women living nearest such Locals, who would talk U. F. W. A. organization work and Pool work, thus doing both as economically as possible. In many instances no charge has been made by these speakers, but when expense has been incurred it has been pro-rated between the U. F. W. A. and the Poultry Pool.

THIRTY MEETINGS BY ACADIA DIRECTOR

Space prohibits mention of all the help that has been given us by the U. F. A. officers and Executive, save the manner in which we have taken advantage of the U. F. A. machinery in existence. As a further illustration, however, in addition to that cited in the case of Mr. McDaniel, we will mention the thirty or more meetings just concluded by Mr. J. E. Sutherland, Director of Acadia constituency. At each of these meetings Mr. Sutherland has devoted at least fifteen minutes to a talk on the Pools. All expense incidental to these meetings was charged to Mr. Sutherland's allotment as U. F. A. Director of Acadia.

Mrs. R. Clarke Fraser, U. F. W. A. Director for the same constituency, writes that it will not be necessary to send any special speakers into her constituency as she will take care of this for us. Mrs. H. E. G. H. Scholefield is taking care of the Poultry Pool for her own U. F. W. A. Directorate, as well as the district for which she is responsible as a Poultry Pool Director.

CORONATION DIRECTORS HOLD SERIES OF MEETINGS

A series of meetings, exceedingly well arranged by Mr. Fawcett, president of the Coronation Provincial Constituency Association, has just been concluded, in which Mr. E. E.

(Continued on page 15)

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DRIVE FOR THREE POOLS

A drive for the three new Pools, under the directorship of C. A. Fawcett, President of the Coronation Constituency Association, has just been completed in that constituency. Mrs. R. Price, U. F. W. A. Director for Camrose, spoke for the Egg and Poultry Pool, Mr. Fawcett for the Livestock Pool and E.H. Rasmussen, Wainwright, for the Dairy Pool.

At Sedalia the meeting took the form of a rally for the Locals in the district, and in addition to the address on co-operative marketing, there was a short program of recitations, etc., and Mrs. Price gave a talk on her recent visit to England and Wembley. O. C. Blair, District Director, and Mrs. R. Chris Fraser, U. F. W. A. Director for Acadia, also gave short addresses on organization work.

Well attended meetings were held at Kenwar School, where four Locals were represented, at Cessart, at Monitor, where members of five Locals were present; at Altario, Kerrisdale, Wheatsheaf, Compeer, Rose Hill, Veteran and Loyalist. Keen interest was displayed in all the Pools, particularly in the Livestock Pool, and committees were appointed to make canvasses of their respective districts.

POTATO POOL IN MANITOBA

The Western Manitoba Potato Pool was organized recently, according to a letter received from George L. L. de St. Remy, secretary, who states that the Pool was called into being "because of the absolute need of quick market to dispose of potatoes threatened by flood waters in the Assiniboine valley. The growers organized to hold in one hand lots. Thanks to the good work of the big western papers, buyers and sellers were brought together through the offices of the Pool." It is hoped that the idea will be developed to include all potato growers in Canada, adds Mr. de St. Remy.

W. J. KEEN STILL ACTIVE

W. J. Keen of Evansburg is forwarding his bi-weekly installment of signed contracts to the Pools, says: "The work of organizing is meeting with success. Wherever the plan of organization is carefully laid before the farmers it is received with enthusiasm, and it looks good for the future when they are taking hold in this way."

PROFIT ON RETAIL SALE OF BEER

Before the public accounts committee of the Alberta Legislature on April 6th, it was stated by Commissioner Dingle of the Liquor Control Board that a profit of about 100 per cent. on the selling cost is made by retailers on beer sold in ten ounce glasses at 15 cents a glass, and on eight ounce glasses at 10 cents a glass the profit is 150 per cent. This, however, does not include the overhead expenses of the hotel keeper for service and operation. The ten ounce glasses are usually sold at two for 25 cents.

FEEDERS' DAY APRIL 9TH

The fourth annual Feeders' Day will be held at the University of Alberta, on Saturday, April 18th. This is also the last day of the Edmonton Spring Stock Show. Grains of calves' rearings, steers, pigs and sheep which have been used in feeding experiments will be exhibited to demonstrate the comparative values of various feeds and combinations of feeds.

SEWING MACHINE VS. BINDER

The debating team of Crerar U. F. W. A. Local defeated representatives of the U.F.A. Local on the subject: "Resolved that the sewing machine has been more beneficial to mankind than the binder." The debate was followed by a program of songs, instrumental selections and recitations. The proceeds, $25, were donated to the church.

BON ACCORD JUNIORS DEBATE

A debate, "Resolved that farm women have an easier time than farm men," was the chief feature of a recent meeting of Bon Accord Junior Local, according to a report received from the secretary, Miss Marcia Hoth. This Local publishes a paper, "The Junior Broadcaster", which affords much amusement at all meetings. An address from the Junior President, Donald Cameron, Jr., at a recent meeting, was greatly appreciated.

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EDITORIAL

THE POULTRY POOL

In an article appearing elsewhere in this issue, Mrs. F. E. Wyman, secretary of the Poultry Pool, describes the close co-operation between the Pool and the Directors and other officers of the U. F. A. and U. F. W. A., which is making possible the carrying on of the membership campaign with a maximum degree of economy and efficiency.

The close association between the Pool and the parent organization is proving of the highest value in the work of the drive. The United Farm Women, with whom the plans for the Pool originated, are devoting themselves with great energy to the organization, combining, as Mrs. Wyman's article shows, U. F. W. A. work and work for the Pool. H. C. McDaniel, U. F. A. Director for Medicine Hat, whose organizing efficiency has been many times proved, has made notable progress in the Medicine Hat district, committees being organized at the various points visited and these committees in turn forming centres from which an aggressive campaign can be carried on. There has been no overlapping, and the plan followed in this instance, and in others described by Mrs. Wyman, reduces to a minimum the possibility of waste of energy and unnecessary expense.

The machinery of the U. F. A. provides the means by which any successful campaign must mainly be carried on. Mrs. Wyman's article indicates that steady progress is being made, through Directors working in conjunction and by arrangement with Provincial, district, and Local officers of the U. F. W. A. and U. F. A.

* * *

During the last session of Parliament, the Banking and Commerce Committee of the House of Commons definitely recommended the introduction of an amendment to the Bankruptcy Act to enable farmers to take advantage of its provisions. For reasons which are very well known it is virtually impossible, under present legislation, for a farmer to go bankrupt.

In the House of Commons on March 18th, M. E. Spencer, U. F. A. member for Battle River, asked the Government the following questions, which we quote from Hansard:

> 1. Is it the intention of the Government to introduce legislation at this session of Parliament in connection with amendments to the Dominion Bankruptcy Act, as proposed by the standing committee on Banking and Commerce at the close of last session?
>
> 2. If so, when will such legislation be brought down?

The answers were as follows:

> 1. The matter is engaging the attention of the Government at present.
>
> 2. Answered by No. 1.

It is of the utmost importance that the Act should be amended, and it is to be hoped that definite assurances will be given at an early date by the Dominion Government that the desired amendments will be introduced this session.

* * *

In view of the recommendation of the Legislature that Alberta should follow the example of New Brunswick in dispensing with Government House, it may be necessary to decide at an early date what disposition shall be made of the property. The property may not be ideally situated for use by Government departments, but we believe it desirable, if possible, to retain it for some public purpose.

L. A. Giroux, the new member for Grouard, has had a good session. Almost consistently he has set a high standard in debate. He has proved himself more businesslike than some of his "business" colleagues.

* * *

As a British investigator has shown, the full flood of Fascist savagery was let loose recently against every variety of opinion not definitely Fascist—reactionary Liberals and reactionary Conservatives sharing the fate of all other parties.

To adapt to Canadian conditions a parallel used by the British writer, it was as though a Government headed by some inconceivably lawless Canadian seized power, forcibly turned Mr. Mackenzie King out of office, threw Mr. Meighen into jail, suppressed the Toronto Globe, the Montreal Star, the Winnipeg Free Press and the Calgary Herald, and flogged the editor of the Regina Leader, and Mr. Hocken, Conservative member for Toronto, rising to ask a question in the House of Commons, were beaten on the head with loaded clubs; while some leading members of the Supreme Court narrowly escaped clubbing on a charge of being connected with the Free Masons; the homes of such extreme radicals as Mr. Andrew McMaster or Dr. Michael Clark were sacked, and centres of popular resistance, when overcome, systematically devastated.

* * *

No great country in modern times has been under the heel of so absolute an autocracy as that of Italy under Mussolini, the creator of Fascism. According to the testimony of a former colleague, Mussolini has revived the ancient practice of giving large bribes for the "removal" of personal enemies. Italy is passing through a dark chapter in her history. Fascism has served the dark forces, and today it can rule only through terrorism. Most of the news of Italy's internal affairs is unfortunately suppressed.

* * *

CAMPAIGN RINGS HOLLOW

(Calgary Albertan)

The opposition has staged an attempt to cut the indemnity and reduce the membership in the Legislature in the forefront during the few weeks of the session. It has met with no success, and several members of the opposition are not worrying about the lack of success. The entire campaign rings very hollow and is without very much sincerity. That sort of politics does not get very far. There are not in public life men good enough actors to deceive the public in matters of that kind. The campaign of the opposition on both these measures is nothing but a sham. It was begun in the first as an amendment to the speech from the throne, and has been continued in the same way. It will not get the opposition very much.

* * *

MRS. GUNN IN TORONTO

(Edmonton Journal)

A Toronto newspaper states that at a recent luncheon of the Board of Trade of that city, in the course of which the new president, Mr. S. B. Gundy, made a strong plea for the elimination of sectional feeling in Canada, the most applauded speaker was Mrs. R. R. Gunn, the president of the United Farm Women of Alberta, who was recently chosen president of the women's section of the Canadian Council of Agriculture. Both the speech and the woman herself were eulogized by Sir Joseph Flavelle, who declared that one could not have too much admiration for the spirit of this "Nova Scotia girl who went west and married a homesteader and lived thirty miles from the nearest town and doctor." Through Mrs. Gunn, Toronto business men have been brought to a more powerful realization of what the country as a whole owes to pioneer Western women.

Legislature by Large Majority Recommends Sale of Government House or Use for Government Departments---Necessity For Economy Chief Reason

Change Will Not Be Brought Into Effect Until Expiration of Term of Office of Present Lieutenant-Governor—Redistribution, Number of Constituencies, and Indemnities, Referred to Special Committee to Be Appointed by Government—Reorganization of Administration of Lethbridge Jail to Follow Walsh Report

Staff Correspondence

No Speaker in Debate Supports Retention Government House

Vote to Eliminate Cost Is Almost Two to One—New Brunswick Has Managed Well Under System Proposed Here

MONDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 30.—By a non-party vote of 29 to 16 which included, in the majority, most of the U. F. A. members, the Assembly today recommended to the Government the sale of Government House and its furnishings, or their use for Government departments. This recommendation was made on motion of W. M. Davidson, Calgary (Independent), seconded by M. C. McKeen, Lac Ste. Anne (U.F.A.). It brings Alberta into line with New Brunswick, where Government House was abolished many years ago.

REFUSE TO PERMIT DAVIDSON TO WITHDRAW BILL

Mr. Davidson asked permission to withdraw his bill providing for a reduction in the indemnities of members of the Legislature, in the afternoon, after the introduction by Russell Love, Wainwright (U. F. A.), of a motion to refer the whole question of indemnities and number of seats in the Province, and the subject of redistribution.

The Liberals refused to agree to unanimous consent, necessary for the Davidson bill to be withdrawn, and W. G. Farquharson, Killarney (U. F. A.), who had adjourned the debate on Friday, later in the day when the bill came up for consideration, moved that the Assembly "do now discharge the orders of the day", thus automatically killing the bill. The bill had stood over during the greater part of the day, in order that proposals for a reduction of the membership of the Legislature, introduced by Mr. Marshall, might be considered, and the Love amendment referring this and other closely related questions to a committee of the Assembly, proved satisfactory to Mr. Davidson. The vote took place shortly after 11 p.m.

MOTION TO DISPOSE OF "GOVERNMENT HOUSE"

Mr. Davidson's motion on the subject of Government House was in the following terms:

> That the Legislature respectfully recommends the Government at the expiration of the present term of office of the Lieutenant-Governor of Alberta to take possession of Government House, offering for sale the entire property, including the furnishings, and in case it can effect no satisfactory sale, to use the building, and such furnishings as remain, as best it can for Government departments.

> A committee will be appointed by the Government to inquire into and report upon the subjects of redistribution, number of seats, and the regular sessional indemnities paid to members of the Legislative Assembly, as well as other indemnities paid to any members of the Chamber.
>
> The assent of the Lieutenant-Governor was given on Friday, April 3, to an act providing for the extension of the Lacombe Northwestern Railway.
>
> Following Judge Walsh's inquiry into conditions at Lethbridge Jail, reorganization will be carried out by the Government, with necessary changes in personnel of the jail staff.
>
> Numerous public and private bills were advanced through the committee stage during the past week.
>
> The bill respecting the Lethbridge Northern Irrigation District will be under consideration in the Assembly this week.

The resolution was in no sense intended as a vote of want of confidence in the Government, the Calgary member said. Its purpose was not the abolition of the office of Lieutenant Governor and the substitution of a commissioner. The Fathers of Confederation had made provision for this office, and had been wise in doing so. Though it would be possible to ask the Dominion Government to appoint a judge to perform the duties of the office, this would not be desirable, because the duties of the judiciary and of administration should be separate and distinct. The resolution, moreover, did not mean that the present Lieutenant Governor would be thrown out of house and home. His term of office would expire, however, at the end of 1925, and the change should then be brought into effect. (The salary of the Lieutenant Governor, $10,000 a year, is, of course, paid by the Dominion Government, while the upkeep of Government House is a Provincial expenditure.)

TENDS TO SNOBBISHNESS IN DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY

There were two reasons for the motion, Mr. Davidson declared. "The first," he said, "and perhaps the less important, is that I doubt if it is in the best interest of a democratic Province such as Alberta that we should have something that is an imitation of a royal court, or that here, in a pioneer country such as this, we should attempt to set up a sort of Buckingham Palace. There is a danger of the encouragement of snobbishness, and from this I believe we have only been saved by the tact and wisdom of the two officers who have held the high position of Lieutenant-Governor."

TOTAL CAPITAL COST OF $638,778

Mr. Davidson's second and principal reason for the motion was economy. The capital cost of Government House since its erection was $342,882, exclusive of interest, and maintenance cost had reached the total sum of $292,906—a grand total of $638,778. Since 1920, moreover, the annual cost, including the salary of the secretary and the maintenance of the building, had been as follows: $24,742 in 1920, $26,669 in 1921, $24,074 in 1922, $18,820 in 1923, about $19,500 in 1924, and in 1925 the estimated cost was $13,125.

DOUBTS WHETHER VALUE RECEIVED FOR OUTLAY

Mr. Davidson doubted whether the Province was receiving value for this expenditure of money. It might be said that Government House was a place where illustrious visitors could be welcomed, yet other cities managed very well without such a reception house, and it should not be maintained solely for this purpose. Its abolition might in fact be an inducement to future aspirants to the office of Lieutenant-Governor, because the holder of the office generally spent more than his allowance in maintaining the large residence. The Government's annual rent bill for offices, exclusive of the Government Buildings in Edmonton, was $13,543. By the use of the present Government House for office purposes a considerable proportion of this rental cost might be saved. The adoption of the resolution would not effect any great reform; the measure of economy it would make possible would not be very great; yet it would help, and form a definite contribution to the solution of our financial problems.

GOT ALONG WELL FOR FORTY YEARS

In seconding the resolution, Mr. McKeen said the question at issue should be decided by the members of the Assembly entirely on its merits. "I was raised in a Province, New Brunswick, where the people have got along very well for forty years without any Government House," declared the U. F. A. member. "There is a large house with grounds there, formerly used as Government House, and now put to other purposes. None can question the loyalty of the people of New Brunswick. I should like to

have some member of the Assembly show some good reason why the upkeep of Government House should be continued."

SUBSIDIZING CLASS DISTINCTION NOT DESIRABLE

George Johnston, Coronation (U.F.A.), said that when he first read the resolution he thought its adoption was out of the question. But when he found that New Brunswick was getting along very well without any Government House, he saw the matter in a somewhat different light. While the necessity for economy was the greatest argument for the change, Mr. Johnston said it was undoubtedly true that the present plan had a tendency to emphasize distinctions of class and wealth among our people. In a young and democratic Province this kind of distinction was out of place. To subsidize the establishment of class distinction, either of birth or wealth, was entirely undesirable.

The vote was taken immediately following Mr. Johnston's speech, no member of the Assembly speaking in opposition to the resolution. The vote was as follows:

For—Hoadley, Ross, Baker, Claypool, Love, Forster, MacLachlan, Cameron, N. S. Smith, Shield, Carson, Moore, McKeen, St. Arnaud, Andrews, Buckley, Farquharson, Peterson, W. C. Smith, Stringam, G. N. Johnston, Ensenauer, Proudfoot, Tobin, Duchene, Giroux, Davidson, White, Christophers.

Against—Greenfield, Brownlee, V. W. Smith, Galbraith, Brown, Cook, G. W. Smith, Sanders, Mrs. McClung, Mitchell, Marshall, Bowen, McLennan, Henry, Heffernan, Pearson.

MARSHALL RESOLUTION ON REDUCTION OF CONSTITUENCIES

Reduction of the number of electoral districts was moved by R. C. Marshall, Calgary (Liberal), in the following resolution:

> That, in the opinion of this House, legislation should be introduced before the end of the present legislative term amending the Legislative Assembly Act to provide for a reduction in the number of electoral districts from sixty to at least forty-five; and that in any redistribution effected by reason of such amendment, regard shall be had to both population and extent of territory within any constituency for the purpose of equalizing representation in the Legislature.

Mr. Marshall pointed out that in 1913 there were 56 members of the Assembly, receiving indemnities of $1,500 each, and that the number of seats was increased by the former Government to 61, with an indemnity of $2,000. In 1924 the number of seats had been reduced to 60. It would be a fatal mistake, said the member, to hold another general election with the present representation. Judging by the vote on the liquor plebiscite, which totalled 160,000, the average number of votes received by each of the 60 members would be about 2,660. If the resolution were passed, the Government could bring down the necessary legislation at a later date.

LOVE MOVES FOR COMMITTEE INQUIRY

Declaring that the matters involved were too important to be disposed of without very thorough consideration and examination into the whole subject of representation, Russell Love, Wainwright (U. F. A.), said that as population increased it was inevitable that the number of representatives should increase, if the best results were to be obtained. As the demands for service made upon members by their constituents increased, and they were called upon to give more and more of their time throughout the year to attending to the needs of their constituents, meeting them, hearing their views expressed, and ascertaining their wishes, it was right that there should be indemnities in some measure commensurate with the services given. Mr. Davidson's figures in regard to state Legislatures in the United States did not provide a fair comparison, for there the county organizations assumed much of the responsibility borne here by the Provincial Legislatures. A much fairer comparison would be provided if the Legislatures of the states of the Australian Commonwealth, which in general performed similar functions to those of Canadian Provincial Legislatures, were taken into consideration. In the State of Queensland, for instance, where the population was 750,000, there were 72 members of the Assembly and 39 members of the Council. The indemnities paid to members in Australia varied from £875 (approximately $4,295), in New South Wales to £300, with transportation and postage allowance. Very careful consideration of area and population was necessary to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion as to the proper course to follow in Alberta.

Mr. Love then moved the following amendment, declaring that some such method as that proposed provided the only intelligent way of dealing with the questions raised by Mr. Marshall:

> That, in the opinion of this House the Government, at this session of the Legislature, should appoint a committee from among the members of the House to consider and report upon:
>
> (a) A re-division of the Province into electoral districts, together with a general plan of redistribution at regular periods in the future.
>
> (b) Sessional indemnities to members and other indemnities paid by the Legislature.
>
> And further, that the committee may be summoned from time to time during the interim following the present session and any expense involved in connection with the work of the committee shall be paid by the Province.

Clause (b) was ruled out of order by the Speaker, because the matter of indemnities was still before the Assembly under the terms of Mr. Davidson's bill, not at that time disposed of.

INEQUALITIES CANNOT BE DEFENDED, SAYS SHIELD

W. H. Shield, Macleod (U. F. A.), supported the amendment of Mr. Love. "The present inequalities cannot be defended," said Mr. Shield, "and no election should be held until this matter has been dealt with. I do not believe, however, in tying the hands of the Legislature at this time. It is desirable to carry out a thorough inquiry into the whole subject of representation and redistribution, with a view to giving the most efficient representation possible."

Going on to refer to the "elasticity of the British Constitution," which could continually be modified to meet changing conditions, Mr. Shield said that this elasticity was its greatest merit. Conditions today were showing a tendency to very definite change, and the growth of economic groups, of democratic selection of candidates, showed a change for the better. State activity in various enterprises and in social legislation brought members and their constituents more closely together.

ROLE OF STATE SHOWS CONSTANT INCREASE

At one time, Mr. Shield reminded the Assembly, even the protection of commerce was regarded as a private responsibility, but constantly the state had been called upon to assume first one, then another responsibility, and the activities of Government were at the present day so much bound up with the people's activities that the interest taken in the work of a representative was greater than it had ever been in the past. Greater demands for service resulted. The elected members, if they were doing their duty, knew the bearing of legislation upon local conditions better than any Government official possibly could.

NEW DUTIES NOW BEING PERFORMED BY MEMBERS

The people had become intolerant of the old methods. This demand for increased service was not the result of change or merely of agitation, but of changing economic conditions and arrangements. The people of today were more vitally concerned in the personnel of legislative bodies than at any time in the past. This was not a matter for censure, but for gratification. But the changed conditions undoubtedly imposed heavy new duties upon members, and this had an intimate bearing upon the subject of the indemnity to be paid. Members called upon to look after larger constituencies and giving the greater part of their time to the work, must be paid in proportion to the service.

"The question," said Mr. Shield, "is not whether or not members of this Assembly are paid more than those of other Provinces, but arises from the fact that the people, to obtain the best results, demand a field of selection as wide as the suffrage, the selection of the best men they can get, at democratically called conventions, and that they should not be deprived of any person's services for financial reasons. There is need for a survey of the whole field of representation. Representative citizens should be called upon to give their views, and a decision should be arrived at, not as the result of hasty action, but of mature deliberation."

SHOULD NOT VISIT "EVERY NOOK AND CORNER"

C. R. Mitchell, who supported the Marshall resolution and opposed the Love amendment, said he did not believe that a member of the Legislative Assembly should visit "every nook and corner" of his constituency. It was not for the public good that members of the Assembly, by devoting themselves to such detail investigation, should constitute themselves "glorified civil servants". It were better that they should devote their whole energies to general policies, leaving all matters of detail to the administration. In the improvement districts the road committees and engineers did the work, and there was no place for the member to interfere there. The elected members could acquaint themselves with opinion in all parts of their constituencies without undue loss of time.

Mr. Mitchell thought 45 a good number to decide upon as the representation in the Legislature. Area as well as population should be taken into consideration and the matter should be left to a joint committee representative of all sides of the Assembly. The number of seats should be determined in the Legislature, and not by any committee. After the number had been determined, then the matter of rearrangements should be placed in the hands of the committee. Mr. Mitchell said he would vote against the amendment. He asked that the Gov-

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Heavy Reductions In Water Rates Provided For in New Lethbridge Northern Bill

Provincial Government Will Advance Sums Necessary to Make Up Difference in Rates, Out of General Revenue of Province—Wide Power to Be Given to Manager Appointed Under Provisions of New Legislation

(Staff Correspondence)

EDMONTON, April 4.—The accompanying table shows the revised construction charges for water rights under the terms of the bill respecting the Colonization of the Lethbridge Northern Railway Company which was given second reading in the Assembly today on motion of V. W. Smith, Minister of Railways and Telephones. The new charges form very heavy reductions. Under the terms of the bill the Provincial Government will advance to the Board of Trustees of the Irrigation District out of the general revenue fund of the Province, any sums required to make up the difference between the irrigation rates imposed under the provisions of the existing Irrigation District Act, and the payments to be made in respect to "home places" under the provisions of the new bill, or required to pay the irrigation rates due upon lands vested in the manager to be appointed under the provisions of the bill. The heavy obligations to be borne by the Government will be reduced in proportion as satisfactory settlement proceeds.

WATER RIGHT PAYMENTS (CAPITAL) UNDER NEW LETHBRIDGE NORTHERN BILL

Plan of Payment	Charge per Acre (Water rights only)
1924 to 1926, inclusive	$0 per annum
1927 to 1929, inclusive	2 per annum
1930 to 1933, inclusive	3 per annum
1934 to 1938, inclusive	4 per annum
1939 to 1972	5 per annum

HOW PRIVILEGES MAY BE OBTAINED

The charges mentioned in the schedule do not of course include the operating and maintenance charges (water service) which commence this year.

The manager will be appointed by the Government, and given very wide powers. All persons who wish to take advantage of the provisions of the bill must apply to the manager to register as a "home place" any parcel or parcels of land within the district named in the application, and thus take advantage of the new legislation. A "parcel" of land is 160 acres or less. No registration may be made until the applicant has shown to the satisfaction of the manager that he has complied with the regulations made by the manager with the approval of the Government, with regard to the payment of municipal or improvement district and school taxes due in respect to the parcels of land registered, and of such water service charges as may be payable. Any resident water user or other person intending to settle on irrigable land in the district may apply for registration.

MUST GIVE OPTION ON SURPLUS LANDS

Every person applying for the registration of a home place shall, as a part of the application, give to the manager an option to purchase any or all of his other lands within the district, any such option being, in the matter of price, period of option and all other terms thereof, subject to the approval of the manager. The option shall contain a covenant by the applicant with the manager and his assigns that upon the exercise of the option he will convey to the manager or his assigns the said lands or any portion of them free from all encumbrances except debentures issued by the district.

Privileges obtained under the bill shall not be assignable until the name has been entered upon the register as the person entitled to such privileges.

The bill provides that all lands and property vested in the manager shall be held in trust in the right of the Province, and all lands which have become the property of the district under rate enforcement proceedings shall be transferred by the Board of Trustees to the manager as trustee for the Government with the exception of lands required in connection with the operation of the district, and lands subjected to first mortgages within the meaning of the Irrigation Districts Act.

SOME OF THE POWERS OF MANAGER

The manager will be given power to enter into agreements to acquire by gift or purchase lands within or partially within and partially without the district, or to dispose of lands acquired. He will have power to sell buildings and live-stock materials to approved water users. He will be empowered to make regulations necessary for the carrying out of the terms of the new legislation.

The same advantages in respect to charges will be obtainable by settlers now in the district and by new settlers who may come in.

SMITH REVIEWS HISTORY OF LETHBRIDGE NORTHERN

In introducing the bill, Mr. Smith made a comprehensive review of the history of the Lethbridge Northern scheme. Irrigation, he said, was introduced into Southern Alberta over 25 years ago. The works which now constitute the A. R. and I. section of the C. P. R. being constructed during the dry period of the later nineties. Wet years followed, with occasional drought, but on the whole there was a wet cycle of years culminating in 1916. In 1917, 1918 and 1919 farms under irrigation produced abundantly, while the dry lands had practically nothing, and the clamor for irrigation which had died down, was heard again. The feasibility of irrigating the tract which now forms the Lethbridge Northern was shown by Dominion surveys; the district was formed in 1918, the landowners voting 287 to 8 in favor of the scheme. As there seemed to be some question of the saleability of debentures, the Alberta Government was pressed in 1920 to give a guarantee, and a partial guarantee which was for the payment of interest for three years, was given, but the debentures when offered for sale had no buyers.

VOTED 362 TO 16 FOR DEBENTURE ISSUE

In 1921 the Government, after examining the report of George G. Anderson, an irrigation engineer of repute, gave full guarantee of the principal and interest of 20 year six per cent. bonds, to the amount of $5,400,000, and with this guarantee the bonds were sold. The people of the district had previously voted for such a debenture issue by 362 votes to 16.

It was planned that the works would be complete in 1923, so that farmers would have that season's crop under irrigation before the first levy of rates in 1924. Construction was carried through according to schedule and within estimated cost, but an unprecedented flood in the Old Man River occurred shortly after water was turned into the ditch early in 1923, damaged the ditch near the headworks and carried away a section of the main flume.

The ability of the farmer to pay the rates came seriously into question when in 1924 the water was available and the rates were levied.

CAPITAL CHARGES TOTAL $55 PER ACRE

Reviewing the financial aspects of the problem, Mr. Smith said that the area estimated to be irrigable was 105,265 acres, meaning a capital cost of $51.29 per irrigable acre. Additional capital expenditure followed the flood damage the sum of $140,000 being voted and advanced as a loan to the district on the security of the short term district debentures, bringing the total capital debt to $5,540,000. In 1924 it developed that the full acreage could not be irrigated for various reasons, and that the assessable area for the levy was a little over 100,000 acres, the capital charges thus being raised to practically $55 per irrigable acre.

When the farmers entered the project, said the Minister, they undoubtedly believed that they could meet the charges without difficulty. Prices were good, irrigated lands west of Lethbridge were giving high returns. In 1924, when water was available at $5.25 per acre the picture had entirely changed, a series of dry years having left many residents under a burden of debt, and they lacked the means properly to prepare the land.

This Government had recognized from the beginning that the number of people in the district was insufficient, and that the holdings were too large, but an effort to assist landowners to dispose of surplus lands met with little success and it was difficult to get lands listed at a price which, added to the $55 capital charges, would make an attractive proposition. There was no demand for land. Settlers could not be obtained when those already there were vigor-

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News of the Organization

Activities of Locals and District Associations and Information From Central Office—Notes on Co-operation

Membership Drive for Vermilion

At a meeting of the executive of the Vermilion Provincial Constituency Association, at which A. F. Aitken, Director for Battle River, was also present, it was decided to hold a membership drive throughout the entire constituency. The Director of each of the six divisions will visit the Locals and ask them to appoint committees to carry on an active campaign for membership, where such a committee has not been appointed previously.

"The executive," writes H. N. Stearns, president, "earnestly desire the assistance of all U. F. A. and U. F. W. A. members in the constituency in building up the membership.

"Mr. Aitken addressed a series of meetings in part of the constituency, making a strong appeal to farm men and women to come into the U. F. A. and help battle our way out of our present difficulties.

"In every district visited keen interest was manifest, and the old fighting spirit of 1920-21 still lives. Four districts have asked to be organized after seeding, one is reorganizing, while at the close of the Stubno meeting, 22 men signed up and paid dues to all branches of the U. F. A. The president asked the five Directors to bring five new members each to their next meeting, which they agreed to try to do.

"Let us build up the U. F. A. as near one hundred per cent. efficient as possible. The more builders we have the sooner will this be brought about. Are you doing your share? The efforts of many years of work in the U. F. A. are now bearing fruit, and will continue to do so in greater measure as time goes on. Give the U. F. A. all the support you can, in any way you can.

"Our dues are $2 to Central, $1 to your Local, Vermilion C. A. 25 cents, Battle River C. A. 50 cents, total $3.75. For information write or consult your nearest officer: president, H. N. Stearns, Innisfree; vice-presidents, C. Larson, Landonville, and Mrs. J. Walker, Vermilion; directors, W. D. Williams and E. A. Searle, Vermilion, J. T. McDuffe, Minburn, N. Bidnarsky, Mannville, H. Heyman, Angle Lake; D. M. Malin, secretary, Mannville."

PETITION FOR BETTER ROADS

The annual meeting of North Fork Local was held late in February, having been delayed on account of the bad roads and stormy weather. The Local has circulated a petition to have some of the roads in the district put in better condition.

DESTROYED 2,360 RABBITS IN THREE DAYS

The rabbit pest in the southern part of the Province is being combated by the Grasshopper Control division of the Department of Agriculture. Several drives were conducted in the Redcliff district under the direction of P. H. Wedderburn. In the vicinity of Bow City 2,360 rabbits were destroyed in three days, and a large number at Lomond, the next week.

PLAN JOINT MEETING

A recent meeting of Earlie Local heard interesting addresses from the Local representatives on the Municipal Council and the Hospital Board. Plans are being made for a joint meeting of several neighboring Locals to discuss municipal problems, states the secretary, W. G. Pearce.

DISCUSS TERMINAL FACILITIES AT COAST

About fifty delegates and visitors attended the recent meeting of the Bow Valley U. F. A. District Association held in Carseland, although the roads were in bad condition. B. S. Plumer gave an interesting talk on the Wheat Pool, particularly on the terminal facilities at New Westminster. Donald Cameron Junior spoke on the Junior branch, and S. J. Ewing on the work of the Survey Board.

URGES TRANSFER OF U. G. G. ELEVATORS TO POOL

A resolution forwarded by J. Guthrie of Edgerton, passed by a meeting of shareholders of the United Grain Growers, Ltd., asks that the U. G. G. elevators in Alberta be transferred to the Alberta Wheat Pool at par value, to be operated by the Pool. The resolution further urges that the shareholders be repaid their proportion of the sale price of elevators prior to July 1st, 1928, and that the matter be brought before all shareholders at an early date.

NEED UNITED INTELLIGENCE OF ALL

Mrs. A. E. Warr, U. F. W. A. Director for Athabasca constituency, has addressed a circular letter to secretaries of U. F. A. Locals, asking for co-operation in getting on a drive for new U. F. W. A. Locals and for increasing the membership in Locals already organized. "We desire to get the farm women organized either into separate Locals or in the men's Locals," says Mrs. Warr, "for it will take the co-operation of every individual, the united intelligence of all, to solve the farmers' problems."

RAISE FUNDS AT TRAVERS

Travers U. F. W. A. have raised funds to pay the Central Office and constituency dues of their members, writes the secretary, Mrs. Nina N. Jones. They have their own range and dishes in the kitchen of the community hall, and at their St. Patrick's dance served supper, seating forty at once. They have finished paying for a Fisher piano for the hall.

JUNIOR CONFERENCE FUND

The following contributions have been received:

Previously acknowledged	$95.80
Bismark Junr. 149	5.00
Three B's Junr. Local	10.00
Dalemead Junr. 544	5.00
Progressive U. F. W. A.	5.00
Aaker Junr. 580	5.00
Glenada Junrs.	5.00
Millarfield 387	5.00
	$135.80

Suggest System for Hog Grading

Delburne Local, according to a letter from the secretary, David S. G. Thomson, passed a resolution protesting against the present system of grading hogs. The resolution suggests a system whereby each hog would be marked with a separate distinct mark, and Government graders record the marks of each select hog, this record to be returned to the farmer, so that he would be able to ascertain just how each hog graded.

As most of the farmers in this district have to buy seed oats, the Local arranged for a reduction in the price of five cents per bushel.

A delegation has been appointed to meet the local municipal council "with a view to putting an end to a cheerful little game which certain coal operators have been carrying on in the district for a number of years. This consists in hiring a big crew of men, shipping out the coal produced, and pocketing the proceeds. The municipal council has then to feed the men who dug the coal—about 40 people—during the winter."

NEW LOCAL NEAR GLEICHEN

G. Soper, of Gleichen, was in charge of the first meeting of Garden Springs Local in the Gleichen district. G. E. Farquharson was elected secretary and P. Brown president.

TWENTY-EIGHT JOIN JUNIOR LOCAL

Wilson Junior Local, in the Lethbridge district, was organized recently by Miss Molly Coupland, who was elected as president. Miss Helen Royden is secretary, and Mrs. Coupland and Mrs. Murdock supervisors. Twenty-eight members signed the roll, 24 being under 21 years of age. Meetings will be held in the Wilson and White schoolhouse.

NEW JUNIOR LOCAL

There being no central meeting place, it was decided that the new Consort Junior Local would meet in the members' homes. This Local, which is in Battle River constituency, was organized by Donald Cameron, Jr., and the officers are Neil Fawcett and Della M. Reid.

CELEBRATE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

Keystone U. F. W. A. celebrated the fifth anniversary of the organization of their Local by serving an oyster supper to about fifty people. At the meeting which preceded it, they decided to ask a representative from the Government Poultry Plant, at Edmonton, to visit the district and cull their poultry flocks.

BUYS COMMODITIES FOR MEMBERS

Ardenville Local, writes the secretary, E. Edward Britton, buys various commodities for members, arranging for a half ton of sugar through a local merchant, buying coal oil by the barrel, also formalin, lumber, fence posts and coal in carlends. They do not keep a stock, but buy when sufficient orders have been received.

NO SPEAKER IN DEBATE SUPPORTS RETENTION OF GOVT. HOUSE

(Continued from page 6)

ernment guarantee the setting up of a committee before the next election.

The debate was adjourned by Mr. Reynolds.

DISCUSSION ON UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM

The adjournment of the Assembly was moved by P. M. Christophers, Rocky Mountain (Labor), for the purpose of calling attention to the prevailing unemployment as a matter of grave public importance. Strikes were not the cause of unemployment, as was manifest in the coal fields, where unemployment continued after an agreement had been made. Reduction in wages did not mean the provision of a larger market, and it could do nothing to increase employment.

Mr. Christophers urged the Government to announce some definite policy in reference to this problem, particularly as it affected the coal mining industry.

Premier Greenfield pointed out that the wage scale at Fernie was lower than in other fields, and that the C. P. R. placed its orders where the lower wages were paid, price being the determining factor. "If Fernie and American coal is priced below that of the Crow's Nest Pass," said the Premier, "I should like to know what the honorable member considers the Government could do in the matter."

F. J. White, Calgary (Labor), said that the Government should investigate the unemployment situation in closed towns, and it should make some definite pronouncement of policy in regard to unemployment in general, and impress upon the Dominion Government the necessity for action.

There were several causes of unemployment, declared C. R. Mitchell, including that of the farmers of the drought affected areas. The Government should go farther than it had done in the matter of seed grain and relief. It was not possible for the Government to offer free food to those in the mining areas who lacked money. A statement should be made by the Government as to what they were prepared to do during the two weeks remaining before work opened up.

UNEMPLOYMENT "GREAT MODERN TRAGEDY"

Describing unemployment as "The great modern tragedy", Alex Ross, Minister of Labor, said that the situation had been more aggravated this year than for some time past. The criticism that the Government had not stated their policy in the matter was unfair. When first the situation was anticipated the Government had sent a representative to a conference which had adopted definite recommendations (a) that every public authority should embark upon a program of public works; (b) that the Dominion and Province look after the remainder by means of a system of doles. The Dominion Government refused to carry out its part of the undertaking, while the Provincial Government had made every endeavor to carry out its share. Gravelling of roads, etc., had been undertaken, and the total cost of all that had been done by providing work and other means was from $560,000 to $570,000.

Many classes of labor could not be absorbed on farms. In view of the prevailing conditions, Mr. Ross said the desirability of bringing in immigrants at this time was open to question.

The unemployed, through their organization, had demanded work or full maintenance. This, said the Minister, was absurd. The Government had tried to take care of all needy cases, and there were 20 jobs unfilled for several days in Edmonton and 25 in Calgary. The problem of unemployment was not primarily Provincial; it was not even national. It was an international question.

SHOULD ALSO ASSIST DRIED OUT FARMERS

While he did not wish to be regarded as inimical or unsympathetic to the people who found themselves in financial distress, P. J. Ensminger said that it would be a mistake to distinguish between different sections of the population who found themselves in that unhappy state, whether they were miners out of work and lacking purchasing power, or farmers in dried out areas who suffered from the unfavorable climatic conditions, and in consequence lost the result of a lifetime of hard work and saving. These people had carried on an heroic struggle to the full limit of their physical endurance. They were employed with a vengeance — over-employed. But the net results of their labor were no greater than those of the unemployed, and from a humanitarian standpoint their condition could not be ignored. The Government should assist them in readjusting themselves to conditions which must necessarily arise in a new and imperfectly developed country.

WORSHIP OF AN ECONOMIC FALLACY

Mr. Shoemaker said he could not endorse the request of the member for Rocky Mountain that the Government supply work for coal miners or pay other class of full maintenance. The function of Government was to provide for everybody as nearly as possible an opportunity for employment, but not to guarantee it. In helping farmers to move from dried out areas to better districts, the Government was enabling farmers to help themselves. The most numerous class were those who were the victims of the policy of deflation. This problem was national and international in character. Failure to solve it was due to worship of an economic fallacy. When that fallacy was discarded, and a sound financial policy adopted, the present difficulties would automatically be removed. But if the coal camps were over-manned, it was the duty of the individual to adjust himself to the changed conditions.

CHRISTOPHERS SUGGESTS UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Mr. Christophers pointed out that the operators at Fernie and Michel had broken their agreement with the miners, and threatened a lockout if the men refused to submit to its breaking. If the C. P. R. gave its whole contract to the Crow's Nest Pass mines, this would mean only three months' employment. Mr. Christophers suggested the adoption of a system of insurance against unemployment, at the expense of the industry concerned. Every man had a right to food, clothing and shelter, and members of a Government who would not see that this provision was made would have to give way to others.

TO AMEND MENTAL DEFECTIVES ACT

The Assembly considered in committee of the whole a bill to amend the Produce Merchants Act, and a bill to amend the Mental Defectives Act, the latter providing for half-yearly reports to be made to the medical superintendent of a training school with regard to the mental condition of any person removed from an institution, and for the paroling of a mentally defective person conditional upon the sending of quarterly reports to the superintendent. With a view to obtaining a more or less accurate census of the feeble-minded children of the Province, the bill provides for a report to be made by an inspector of schools of any case in which he believes a child to be mentally defective.

TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASES

A bill to amend the Venereal Diseases Act, also passed through committee. Under the old act the sale of medicines, etc., for the treatment of venereal diseases is permitted under the regulations. The indiscriminate use of some of these medicines is likely to prove harmful, and the amendments accordingly provide that these medicines shall only be supplied on the prescription of a doctor. Provision is also made for (a) the compulsory medical examination of persons under arrest and charged with prostitution, or being inmates or frequenters of disorderly houses; (b) medical examination at the discretion of a magistrate of persons under arrest and charged with any other offense under the Criminal Code or under the Children's Protection Act; and (c) the subsequent detention of persons examined and found to be suffering from venereal disease. A person examined under arrest for an offense as above may, if found to be suffering from venereal disease, be committed to the Provincial Jail or to any hospital or home where adequate treatment may be obtained, and kept there until free from venereal disease or non-infective.

WOULD GIVE CHIROPRACTORS INTERIM LICENSES

A bill to amend the Chiropractic Act proved somewhat contentious. The bill provides for interim licenses permitting chiropractors who are holders of diplomas issued by a recognized school of chiropractic, and are otherwise qualified to present themselves for examination, to practice for a limited period prior to passing the examination provided for chiropractors who were not practicing in Alberta at the time of the passing of the original act.

Dr. Stewart, Lethbridge (Independent Conservative), objected to this provision, saying that to allow a chiropractor to practice before passing the prescribed examination would create a great deal of trouble for the Minister. Mr. Hoadley said that only three chiropractors had applied for the prescribed examination last year.

Gordon Forster, Hand Hills (U. F. A.) asked the Minister of Health whether legislation would be passed to allow patients to enter municipal hospitals on the certificate of a chiropractor, to which Mr. Hoadley answered that such legislation was not contemplated. John C. Buckley, Gleichen (U. F. A.), asked whether it was not a fact "that a regulation was made by the Health department in June last, leaving it optional with each hospital board as to whether they would admit such patients or not?"

Other bills passed through committee were a bill to amend the Calgary charter, a bill to incorporate the Church of the Holy Redeemer; and a bill to provide for incorporation of the Seventh Day Adventists, to meet certain conditions which have recently arisen.

In committee of supply the vote for

the University of Alberta, left over from last week, was considered. Mr. White wished to know how much Government printing, how much commercial, and how much university printing, was done by the University Press. As the Government did not administer the University, said Mr. Baker, he was unable to answer this question, or a question put by W. M. Davidson concerning the University hospital. The vote stood over, pending receipt of desired information in regard to printing.

Committee to Report on Re-distribution and Indemnities

Assembly Rejects Marshall Motion and Decides to Make Inquiry Before Taking Action—Lengthy Debate

TUESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 31.—With the addition of a sub-amendment moved by J. E. Brownlee, Attorney-General, the Assembly today, by 40 votes to 6, adopted the proposal of J. R. Love, calling for the appointment of a committee to report upon a general plan of redistribution. Mr. Brownlee's amendment expressed the opinion of the Legislature that the committee should also "consider and report upon sessional indemnities paid to members, as well as other indemnities paid by the Legislature." In effect it re-inserted the clause in Mr. Love's amendment ruled out of order by the Speaker yesterday, because at the time when it was introduced, Mr. Davidson's bill had not been disposed of.

The passing of the amendments meant the defeat of Mr. Marshall's resolution, the member for Calgary having declined to withdraw, though he endorsed the principle of the appointment of a committee. The vote was as follows:

For — Messieurs Greenfield, Brownlee, Hindley, Reid, Ross, Mrs. Parlby, V. W. Smith, Baker, Love, Matheson, Claypool, Forster, MacLachlan, Sparks, Cameron, Galbraith, Carson, Moore, Brown, Washburn, St. Arnaud, Andrews, Buckley, Farquharson, Peterson, Cook, W. C. Smith, G. W. Smith, Stringam, G. N. Johnston, Sanders, Ensminger, Proudfoot, Conner, Pedun, Chernoskas, Dr. Stewart, Pearson, Davidson, White.—40

Against — Messieurs Tobin, Marshall, Mrs. McClung, Dechene, McLennan, Heffernan, Henry.—6.

Paired — N. S. Smith, for; Mitchell, against. Shield, for; Milnes, against. McKeen, for; Mills, against.

INQUIRY COMMITTEE TO HAVE FREE HAND

Arbitrary fixing of the number of electoral districts before thorough inquiry had been made, was entirely undesirable, said Mr. Brownlee in reference to Mr. Marshall's proposal. The only place where such arbitrary fixing of the numbers was in force was in Dominion affairs, where, in order to protect the rights of all the people of all the Provinces, one Province was given a fixed number of seats, the representation of all other Provinces being based, in the ratio of population, upon this fixed number for Quebec.

"If a committee of this Assembly appointed to inquire into all the matters involved is to be told just how many seats they must provide for, their hands will be tied unduly," contended the Attorney-General. "They should make their inquiries and finish their work first."

The committee might favor larger constituencies, or it might favor smaller constituencies with a greater number of members. The Assembly would have the final say in the matter, but the committee should have a free hand in making its investigations. It should also consider very fully the cost of service and representation by members, and the matter of indemnities. The costs involved in giving adequate and efficient representation to a large constituency might be larger than those of small constituencies.

As to the matter of the special indemnity now paid to the leader of the "opposition", Mr. Brownlee said that even if under a system of group representation a change were made in the arrangements of the Assembly, he would favor the payment of some special compensation to the various group leaders. If each group thus received assistance in carrying on its work, the Attorney-General believed that the legislation passed by the Assembly would be more thoroughly examined and surer in its provisions. This was a matter to be decided, no matter how differently groups might function in the future, as compared with the past.

PEARSON SUPPORTS REFERENCE TO COMMITTEE

Strongly supporting the proposal to refer all the matters at issue to a committee of the Assembly, Captain Robert Pearson, Calgary (Independent), said he believed that this committee should deliberate, obtain evidence, and report to the next session of the Legislature, in order that action might be taken upon its findings prior to a general election.

Mr. Marshall's motion was not clear, and "not even truthful". This was no aspersion on the member, but it was altogether undesirable to pass a resolution ambiguous in its terms. The resolution directed that the number of electoral districts should be reduced to "at least forty-five". But it would be possible to have forty-five electoral districts and still have sixty members, as the electoral districts of Calgary and Edmonton, for instance, now had five members each. The resolution called for "at least forty-five members". Was that really what the mover meant, or did he mean "at most forty-five"?

MAY BE ANOTHER GOVERNMENT, THINKS TOBIN

Stanley Tobin, Ledue (Liberal), supported the Marshall resolution. There was no guarantee, he said, that another Government would not be in power before the committee proposed by Mr. Love could report. It would not be impossible, he thought, to divide the Province into 45 constituencies.

Mrs. McClung, Edmonton (Liberal) delivered a speech which led members of the Assembly to conclude that she would support the Love resolution and the Brownlee amendment. She favored the principle of the appointment of a committee, and said that there was only one thing she would like the Attorney-General to clear up. If the amendment provided for consideration of the possibility of holding biennial sessions, instead of yearly sessions, and so effecting economy, the Legislature meeting in alternate years only, she said she would favor it. Mr. Brownlee remarked that this matter might well be taken into consideration by the committee. However, when the question came to a vote, Mrs. McClung lined up with the remainder of the Liberal members, in favor of the Marshall resolution, thus making a division along strictly party lines.

INVESTIGATE FIRST, LEGISLATE AFTERWARDS

"I think we are likely to arrive at surer conclusions if we investigate first and legislate afterwards," declared W. M. Davidson, Calgary (Independent). Mr. Davidson differed with Mr. Brownlee, he said, in that he did not believe that in order to get the best brains it would be necessary to pay a high price.

Mr. Brownlee explained that this was not what he had said. He contended, however, that the quality of the Legislature would be determined in part by the payment of a recompense to members sufficient to warrant their devoting themselves to a very thorough carrying out of the duties of their office.

Mr. Davidson did not altogether agree. He thought the personnel of the Assembly would have been much the same whether $1,500 or $2,500 were paid. Good men in the legal profession had been attracted in the past. The Calgary member believed, he said, in placing redistribution on a "business basis", and this it would be possible to do by the appointment of a committee of the Assembly to investigate. He suggested the division of the Province into ten or twelve major divisions. It could then be decided whether these should be subdivided and a system of proportional representation might be adopted in group constituencies.

FEWER MEMBERS, GREATER EFFICIENCY

J. C. Bowen, Edmonton (Liberal), remarked satirically that the amendment "had no beginning and apparently would have no end." As the Attorney-General had said, the committee might decide that the number of electoral districts should be increased. Mr. Bowen believed that the committee should be given definite instructions to reduce the number to 45, or fewer still. The committee might not fulfill its duties adequately. It might not meet often enough to get anywhere. The fewer the members, Mr. Bowen believed, the greater would be the chances of attaining to efficiency in legislation.

Describing the amendment as a "cleverly devised scheme to prevent members from declaring themselves," and stating his belief that the Assembly should definitely declare how many constituencies there should be in the Province, W. T. Henry, Edmonton (Liberal), announced his intention to support the Marshall resolution.

REDUCTION WOULD NOT NECESSARILY MEAN ECONOMY

The only argument presented in favor of the cutting down of the number of members, said E. G. Cook, Pincher Creek (U. F. A.), was that of economy. Yet, in his opinion, a cutting down of the number of representatives did not necessarily make for economy. "Where," he asked, "is the first duty of members? It is out in our constituencies, acquainting ourselves with their needs, and placing before them what has been done. When we meet here, each member should be thoroughly familiar with the needs of his constituents, and should confer with each of the others,

who knows the particular needs of his own district. I believe that the time is ripe for redivision of the Province, and that this should take place before an election. The fundamental thing is not the mere business of passing legislation here; it is adequate representation of our constituents."

IGNORE SINCERE ATTEMPT TO DEAL WITH ISSUE

"To fail to support the proposal to refer this matter to a committee for inquiry is to ignore a sincere attempt to deal with all the questions involved on their merits," declared F. J. Ennesnaer, Alexandra (U. F. A.), who urged the Assembly to "investigate first and legislate afterwards." Mr. Ennesnaer remarked that if the vote on the resolution were taken in the Assembly, on political lines, its supporters would be overwhelmed, because they constituted only a small body in the Legislature, whereas if a committee were appointed, they would as a group gain on the committee stronger representation than they would be entitled to if numbers alone were taken into consideration. Each group would have approximately equal representation, the largest group, of course, coming first.

WHEN MEMBERS WERE "LEGISLATORS" ONLY

"In the old days we used to see the member only once or twice in four years", said George MacLachlan, of Pembina (U. F. A.). "He considered himself a legislator only, and not a representative who should be in close touch with the needs of his constituency. If the same service were being given today as was given prior to 1921 by elected members, an indemnity of $1,000 would be too much."

Dealing briefly with the subject of the Ministers' salaries, Mr. MacLachlan said he had been making some inquiries and found that in the City of Edmonton almost every bank manager received at least $10,000 a year, and many heads of business firms, such as gas companies, etc., received more. Judges and the Liquor Control Commissioner of the Province received larger salaries than the members of the Cabinet, and the manager of the electric light plant at Red Deer received $7,500 a year.

Dr. Stewart, who, in view of the experience of the City of Lethbridge with a private corporation controlling the gas supply, has formed strong opinions in favor of public rather than private control of utilities and resources, remarked, "The gas company managers get more than $5,000."

Mr. MacLachlan: "Yes."

Dr. Stewart: "You bet."

Reverting to the subject of the sessional indemnity, Mr. MacLachlan said that if members were getting too much, if they were overpaid for their services, there should undoubtedly be a cut. But if they were not being overpaid, then, to argue that they should give a portion of their indemnity to the Provincial exchequer, was to ask them to give to charity, after they had paid their fair share of taxation.

"I suggest," said the member for Pembina, in conclusion, "that the committee which is to be set up might well make an inquiry into the services rendered by members up to 1921, and the kind of services that have been rendered since."

"TONNAGE ENOUGH FOR ME," SAYS HEFFERNAN

J. W. Heffernan, Edmonton (Liberal), said it was enough for him that the principle of economy was involved in the resolution, and that he would vote for it. He remarked that the resolution calling for the appointment of a committee did not specify that the committee must report before the next election. However, he believed that a member of the Government had stated that there would be no general election before redistribution.

Announcing his intention to support the amendment to the amendment, Dr. J. S. Stewart, Lethbridge (Ind. Conservative), suggested that the committee appointed should consist of five or six members, and that it should be appointed by the Legislature. He believed that rural constituencies should require a smaller population quota per member than urban constituencies, because of the greater labor involved in representing a rural constituency. For instance, a unit of 20,000 per member would perhaps be fair for a city constituency, while for such a large rural constituency as Athabasca this would be far too high.

WHAT WOULD MEMBERS DO IN BUSINESS TRANSACTION?

George Hoadley, Minister of Agriculture, remarked that Mr. Marshall's resolution was mandatory, leaving no option to any committee that might be appointed, to make any recommendation in conflict with the terms of the resolution. He asked whether any member opposite would enter into a business transaction involving say $10,000, without first obtaining an inner knowledge of all the matters involved. Would Mr. Henry do this in a business deal?

Mr. Hoadley questioned whether the resolution as drafted was strictly in order, as it was vague in wording and did not place the matter to be dealt with plainly before the Assembly.

The Speaker remarked that it might not comply quite strictly to the rules, but that "if all the rules were strictly adhered to, we should have few resolutions before this Assembly." There was neither rhyme nor reason, said Mr. Hoadley, in suggesting the number of 45 as though that particular number was for some reason or other ideal. This was the same kind of procedure as had been followed by Mr. Marshall in moving reductions in the estimates, when he said, "I don't know anything about this item, but I think you should cut it off."

WHEN THERE WAS NO CHANCE FOR DISCUSSION

"When I sat in this Assembly some years ago, on the other side of the chamber," added the Minister, "details of redistribution were laid on the table for the first time when the bill came down for second reading, and inside of 24 hours the bill had been rushed through, and the Assembly dissolved and an election called."

Mr. Bowen, Edmonton (Liberal): "That's service for you."

Mr. Hoadley remarked that the Liberals had shown little liking for investigation by committees of the Assembly. They had refused, for instance, to serve on the committee that drafted the terms of the liquor plebiscite, which had resulted in the passing of very satisfactory legislation.

Winding up the debate, Mr. Marshall created some surprise on the U. F. A. benches when he said that he had never been opposed to the appointment of a committee. He added that he thought his resolution should be passed first, a committee should be appointed, and it should report before the Assembly adjourned at the conclusion of the present session.

WOULD GIVE TWO CITIES ONLY ONE MEMBER EACH

During the debate Mr. Marshall was questioned as to the meaning of the phrase "forty-five electoral districts". He replied that he meant forty-five members, whereupon it was pointed out that this would give Calgary and Edmonton, which now have five members, only one member each. This, of course, was not the Calgary member's real intention, but it was an accurate interpretation of the meaning of the resolution.

Mr. Marshall dwelt at some length on the value of inquiry by committee, and thus led some members of the Assembly to expect that he would withdraw his resolution. This course was not followed, however, and the division resulted as previously recorded.

ONLY ONE SUPPORTER FOR THIS RESOLUTION

Only one member of the Assembly, the mover himself, voted for a resolution introduced by S. G. Tobin, Leduc (Liberal), in the following terms:

> That this Legislature urges upon the Dominion Government the necessity of amending the "Live Stock and Live Stock Products Act" so as to permit producers of eggs to sell to country stores in limited quantities without candling or grading; such eggs not to be for domestic consumption or for export until after they are candled or graded by the retailer or wholesaler, and kept within the regulations of the Act by being labeled by the purchaser, "Ungraded, for Shipment Only".

N. S. Smith, Olds (U.F.A.), strongly opposed the resolution. Its adoption, he said, would be a step backward, at a time when efforts were being made to standardize products and raise the standards. A general improvement in prices had followed the raising of standards.

The resolution was opposed by W. M. Davidson, Calgary (Independent), on the ground that it was not strictly within the jurisdiction of the Provincial Assembly to be continually making recommendations to the Dominion Government in matters of detail such as this. Recommendations on major issues, such as Natural Resources and Rural Credits, were in an entirely different category. He was not sure that the Legislature was warranted, however, in passing the resolution on the grading of grain, or that such a resolution would be given any more consideration by the Dominion than would be given to any resolution passed by any group of 60 intelligent persons.

George Hoadley agreed, and expressed surprise at the introduction of a resolution which would in effect penalize the producer of good stock.

Mr. Tobin said his resolution was intended to apply to sales by local stores only, not to shipments to markets further afield.

A bill respecting the Calgary and South Western Railway, a bill respecting the Preservation of Public Documents (to enable certain useless documents to be destroyed); a bill respecting the Sale of Coal; a bill to amend the Amusements Tax Act, and a bill to amend the Corporation Tax Act—all somewhat minor amendments—were passed through committee of the whole.

DOES NOT LIKE "CLOSED PROFESSION BUSINESS"

In discussion of a bill to amend the Legal Professions Act, Gordon Forster remarked that he "did not like this

Will not Be Exempted
From the Medical Act

New Beer Permits Will Be Issued for Drinks, the Assembly Decides

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

adopted, of cutting down the carefully estimated freight rates, and leaving the department with readers dumped at Gull Lake, or somewhere else on the railway, because there was not enough money to pay freight to Albegia.

DOES MR. MARSHALL WANT TO OPEN JAILS?

Then there was the cut in the cost of maintenance of prisons. If Mr. Marshall wanted all the prisoners to be discharged it was logical. "The motion meant, in effect," said Mr. Baker, "that the prisoners must be turned loose or their throats cut to save expense.

"The Government is as anxious to make reductions as any member opposite, but whenever a reduction is made, members opposite get up and protest against it. When the number of schools inspectors was reduced, the former leader and the present leader of the opposition went out and attacked the Government for having cut down expense in this direction."

Mr. Baker said that University costs in 1922 were $474,500, and in 1923, although the University had asked for an increase, they were reduced by about $41,615, or about ten per cent. In 1924 there was a further cut, $15,000 below the cost for 1923, and the services of nine junior members of the faculty were dispensed with. At the end of 1924 the University had a deficit of $16,000, although it had offsetting surplus funds. No new expenditures were contemplated this year, but provision was made for the $14,000 short last year. A sum of $7,000 was included in the University estimates of 1925 that was included in 1924 in public debt. This transaction was merely one of bookkeeping and did not mean a real increase.

Mr. Marshall said, in reference to free seats, that he had moved a reduction in the vote for the seats, as well as in the item of freight.

George Mills, Athabasca (Liberal), said he had not suggested any cuts in any department, but he did believe that money should not be spent on the University until primary education could be obtained in all rural parts of the Province. He favored a commission to inquire into University affairs.

GIROUX COMES GALLANTLY TO THE RESCUE

L. A. Giroux, who had not participated in Mr. Marshall's indeterminate "cutting" campaign, came with French chivalry to the defense of his colleague. He said he did not understand money being voted for Government House, and the Assembly then voting to abolish it. (It will not be abolished until the expiration of the term of office of the present occupant in the fall).

SOME OVER-EXPANSION, DAVIDSON BELIEVES

Referring to a suggestion that University officials should come over to the Legislature to discuss their estimates, W. M. Davidson, Calgary (Independent), said that such a plan had been tried in the United States and had proved unsuccessful. While the University had done excellent work, said the member, it was impossible to overlook the fact that there had been over-development or too rapid development, and that the creation of some of the faculties was hardly justified. He was not sure whether it would be advisable to dispense with them after establishment, but he would advise the Minister of Education and the University authorities to survey the work to see if this could not be done.

Mr. Davidson was not yet satisfied with the existing relationship between the University hospital and the University. He hoped the University hospital would prove a clearing house for municipal hospitals in the Province.

Coming to the defence of R. C. Marshall, Stanley Tobin, Ladbr (Liberal), described the Calgary member's policy of making formal motions for cuts in an wholesale way as "courageous". Mr. Tobin said he did not want to disagree with his colleague, Mr. Mills, who he believed was sincere in the views he had expressed.

IF LIQUOR BILL COULD BE SAVED

Sam Brown, High River (U. F. A.), thought that criticism of the University originated in a lack of understanding of the nature of its work. A thorough understanding of this would cause criticism to disappear, and for his own part the member was proud of the work they had accomplished. He believed that the work of primary and secondary education should be extended and improved without laying hands on the University. "If we could use the twelve million dollars spent in alcohol and other wasteful ways to help elementary education we should get a good deal farther," said Mr. Brown.

A. G. McLennan, Edmonton (Liberal), said that he could not support any cuts in the University estimates. It was possible that there might be too many faculties, but it was desirable to make the best of the situation.

BELIEVES COST OF HOSPITAL TOO HIGH

While he had no criticism to offer of the staff of the University hospital, and had confidence in the skill and attention of the doctors, J. C. Buckley, Okotoks (U. F. A.), contended that the price paid for the maintenance of this institution was too high, and he strongly urged the Government to secure direct representation on the controlling board. The deficit totalled nearly $10,000. Mr. Buckley moved that the vote stand until investigation could be made into the working of the University hospital, and a report made to the Assembly, but withdrew his motion subsequently upon Mr. Hoadley stating that an investigation by the Department of Health was already under way.

Expressing regret that the member for Okotoks had chosen this hospital for attack, W. H. Shield, Macleod (U. F. A.), said that very few hospitals paid their way, and he was afraid the publicity given to this matter might create a desire to make the institution pay rather than to give service. Mr. Shield believed that the Government should have a certain measure of control over the University.

The motion to reduce the estimate was rejected.

PROVIDES FOR AUDIT OF DRAINAGE DISTRICTS

A bill to amend the Drainage Districts Act of 1923, considered in committee of the whole, will simplify procedure in the annual election of trustees, in providing for nominations at the annual meeting of voters, notice of the nominations to be given at the same time as the notice of the meeting, the expense of newspaper publication thus being done away with. Definite provision is made for an audit, which, if deemed desirable, may be by the Provincial Auditor. Confusion in proceeding where more than one vacancy is to be filled at an annual election is cleared up, by providing that there shall be a separate ballot for each vacancy. Provision is also made for reserve bids on lands offered for sale at public auction, the minimum price being fixed by the board.

AMENDMENTS TO IRRIGATION DISTRICTS ACT

A bill to amend the Irrigation Districts Act, to provide for more convenient and economical methods of administration and construction, and to conform with proposed legislation concerning colonization, was passed through committee of the whole. The amendments deal with water supply to streets and lots in towns, villages and hamlets. They give power to trustees boards to cultivate lands of an irrigation district if deemed desirable; to commute annual rentals for right-of-way by one cash payment; to expropriate lands for other purposes than actual ditch right-of-way; to shut off water supply as penalty for non-payment of rates; to give notice of annual nominations and annual meetings by registered mail instead of by newspaper publication; to construct the works, wholly or in part, by allotment among the water users without issue of debentures; and to divide the annual levy into capital and current charges.

Provision is also made for annual audit of books, the Provincial Auditor being given power to examine and audit the books if he should so desire. It is made an offence for a water user to tamper with the ditches of a district or the flow of water therein.

The bills to amend the two foregoing acts were introduced by V. W. Smith.

Lethbridge Jail Will Be Re-organized as Result of Inquiry

Government Will Make Necessary Changes in Personnel—Members Discuss Findings of the Walsh Report

FRIDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, April 1.—Reorganization of the internal arrangements of the Lethbridge jail, to eliminate objectionable features revealed in an inquiry recently conducted by Mr. Justice Walsh, will be carried out by the Provincial Government, according to an announcement made in the Assembly today by Alex Ross, Minister of Public Works. The inquiry followed action taken by the Lethbridge branch of the Dominion Labor party, who called attention to the circumstances surrounding the death of a prisoner named Moore, who was sentenced to a short term for drunkenness, was placed in a dark cell after he had given trouble, remained there after the doctor had reported that he should be removed to the hospital, and subsequently died.

Judge Walsh found that in general "the necessary consent for removal of prisoners to hospital from the jail could be obtained by telephone from the Department of Public Works at Edmonton, without harmful delay, and that in all cases where the warden had acted on his own initiative his action had been ratified by the department." In the case of Moore the doctor had informed the guard that the prisoner needed hospital treatment, but the guard had not punctually reported the matter to the warden.

Judge Walsh strongly condemned the jail authorities for keeping the prisoner in the dark cell for much longer than had been necessary. He said that charges of cruelty were not substantiated, and that while greater precautions should be observed in keeping the dark cell clean and in fumigating bed clothes, the food and general sanitary arrangements were good.

WILL MAKE NECESSARY CHANGES IN PERSONNEL

Mr. Ross's statement regarding the intentions of the Government was in the following terms:

> The report, while it does not find that all the statements relative to the care of sick prisoners were true, does reveal the need for better accommodation for sick prisoners. The custom of confining noisy sick prisoners in the dark cells for short periods is one which has grown up with the institution, and is due largely to the fact that infirmary accommodation was not provided for when the jail was constructed. The department in charge of the prisons was not aware of this custom and the Government in reviewing the report have decided that the custom must be discontinued and more suitable facilities created for the care of sick prisoners, who do not need hospital accommodation but require to be temporarily isolated.
>
> The report also criticizes the internal organization of the jail in so far as it relates to the handling of the sick and the evidence submitted by the staff would indicate that the criticism was well founded and that whatever the cause a certain amount of friction among some of the jail officials did exist. It is, therefore, the intention of the Government to reorganize the internal arrangements of the jail, and to make such changes in the personnel of the staff as will be necessary in order to eliminate the objectionable features of prison life as stated in the report submitted by Judge Walsh.

In order to make possible a discussion of the report, under the rules of the Assembly, Captain Robert Pearson, Calgary (Independent), moved that immediate action be taken to "place responsibility for the undesirable conditions in Lethbridge jail", the motion, which was only necessary as technical

grounds to permit members to express their views, being subsequently withdrawn.

The report cannot be given in any detail here, but W. M. Davidson, Calgary (Independent), declared that conditions revealed by the inquiry were "appalling", that prisoners should not be left to lie on a hard concrete floor, as had occurred, and that a general shake-up was imperative.

TREATMENT OF PRISONERS INHUMAN, SAYS WHITE

F. J. White, Calgary (Labor), said that the report revealed "not only inhuman treatment of sick persons and of persons who did not please the guards," but that in view of the conditions permitted by the jail authorities, steps should be taken "completely to reorganize the jail administration," and that "prisoners should be afforded protection against unjust treatment." One prisoner, 19 years of age, he said, had been "compelled to go down on his knees and beg to be relieved of a further beating by one of the guards". The treatment of prisoners had in some cases been extremely "callous".

Both Mr. White and Mrs. McClung, who was the first to speak in the debate, urged that other Provincial institutions, such as the mental hospital, should also be thoroughly investigated. "A very grave responsibility rests on those who take away the liberty of a fellow being," declared Mrs. McClung, "both in asylums and in other institutions". One prisoner had been punished for the "grave offense of giving bread which he did not need himself to a fellow prisoner". The administration of the jail was characterized by "inefficiency and stupidity". In the case of Moore, the doctor had failed to notify the warden of the prisoner's condition, because he relied on the guard to do so.

WHOLE COMMUNITY RESPONSIBLE FOR BAD CONDITIONS

"We are all to blame for this, and I do not seek to escape by placing all the blame on those whom we have appointed," said Mrs. McClung. "When we awaken to our responsibilities, the dark cell will be abolished. The light of day should be let in to all these institutions. Guards should be specially trained, and have special qualifications. They should be men of the highest character and integrity, and it should not be possible to have men of brutal instincts in charge of these poor chaps whom we deprive of their liberty."

R. F. Marshall, Calgary (Liberal), said the situation which had been revealed was exceedingly serious. While some prisoners might be dangerous to the life of a guard, yet there was also a danger that guards might think that they were a law unto themselves, and that prisoners had no rights.

CITIES MAY OFFER INDUCEMENTS TO INDUSTRIES

A bill giving power to cities, towns and villages to grant fixed assessments upon improvements to industrial establishments was given a second reading by 29 votes to 14. The period of the fixed assessment is not to be more than 10 years, and the assessment itself is not to be less than 10 per cent. of the value of the improvements. Provision is made for the transfer and lease of land and the supply of water and other municipal services to an industrial establishment at a price, rental or rate determined by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners.

Although, technically, a Minister cannot introduce a private bill, J. E. Brownlee, in moving the second reading, said that to all intents and purposes it was a private bill, which he had introduced merely to bring the matter before the Assembly. It had not been considered by the Cabinet.

Long discussions had taken place in the Municipal Law Committee as to the propriety of bonusing industries, which was prohibited under existing law, though in the case of the Imperial Oil Company, a special bill had been put through giving a fixed assessment to that company's property in the City of Calgary. Mr. Brownlee believed that in matters of this character it was accurate, while seeking the ideal, to avoid extremes. It was essential that the premises of the cities should be thickened, and cities in other Provinces were in a position to bid for industries against Alberta. This bill did not provide for bonuses, but for certain concessions on improvements made by industrial concerns, and sought to set a definite standard beyond which it would be impossible to go.

STEWART STRONGLY OPPOSES BILL

J. S. Stewart, Lethbridge (Ind. Conservative), strongly opposed the measure, declaring that any relief from taxation given to a large concern must be gained on in the form of added taxation to the man living on wages or small salary. As the result of an agreement which it had made with the C. P. R., a city with which he was familiar was losing money on every gallon of water supplied to the company. Large concerns would be placed in a more favorable position than the smaller. Dr. Stewart said he would rather deal with any special cases on their merits, than pass a blanket bill.

J. C. Bowen, Edmonton (Liberal), supported the bill. Edmonton had tax arrears of from six to seven million dollars, he said, and was lacking in industries, and if industrial concerns could be brought in they would bear some share of the burden of taxes. There was no Calgary element in the bill. Unless industries were established it was difficult to know where a career would be found for Alberta boys going through the Technological School and the University.

Declaring that industries could not be "brought in by artificial means, but must stand on their own feet", F. J. White, Calgary (Labor), opposed the bill and said the principle of the measure was wrong. In the past certain people temporarily in authority had incurred liabilities by bonusing, and then changed their residences, passing on the burden of taxes to those who remained.

WHEN TOWNS HOPED TO BE "SECOND CHICAGOS"

The principle of the bill was also opposed by Sam Brown, High River (U. F. A.), who reminded the Assembly that he had taken a similar stand against the Calgary bill. He remembered the day when Alberta towns, all of which expected to become "second Chicagos", were bidding against each other and incurring heavy burdens which the people of today were bearing. Why should not the farmer be bonused if other interests were? It was not a business proposition to seek to bring in industries which had to be "pap fed".

Condemning the legislation on the ground that it embodied a "vicious principle", Donald Cameron, Innisfail (U. F. A.), said that any form of bonusing meant passing on to the great bulk of the people burdens which should rightfully be borne by financially strong bonused interests. He had always opposed this principle.

When J. W. Heffernan, Edmonton (Liberal), in rising to support the bill, suggested that Dr. Stewart had declared that he "wanted to keep industries from coming into the country," there were cries of "No, no, no," from members of the Assembly, and Dr. Stewart rose in indignant protest and demanded a withdrawal. Mr. Heffernan immediately withdrew his remark, saying that he had not meant to imply that Dr. Stewart had said this, though it was the logical outcome of his point. The Edmonton member added that the concessions permitted by the bill would not actually bring industries to which did not wish to come for sound business reasons, though it might induce them to establish their plants within the city limits.

W. M. Washburn, Stony Plain (U. F. A.), said: "Why give a bonus if they'll come anyway?"

TENDENCY TO BUILD PLANTS OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS

W. H. Shield, Macleod (U. F. A.), said that in view of the high taxation in the cities there might be a tendency for industries to acquire sites just outside the cities' limits unless reductions could be offered. Some of the cities and towns spread out too wide an area, and it was desirable that they should be built up by industries which would shoulder a share of their burdens.

"We don't want to bring in industries that are going to fail because they cannot stand on their own feet," said Robert Pearson, Calgary (Independent), opposing the bill. "There will be competition between cities as a result of which all will have to offer the maximum concessions."

R. C. Marshall, Calgary (Liberal), said the bill did not provide for bonusing, and pointed out that the Calgary agreement had been confirmed by the Legislature last session. He favored the bill.

Others who participated in the debate were W. M. Davidson, Calgary (Independent), who opposed, saying that competition between localities would tend to compel all of them to give maximum concessions; W. T. Henry, Edmonton (Liberal), who supported the bill and cited an example of an industry which had gone beyond city limits, the city finding it necessary to spend money in extending water supply to the plant; Mrs. McClung and Stanley Tebbs, who supported the bill; George Hoadley, who opposed on the ground that the principle of bonusing was bad and that the bill made indirect bonusing possible; and A. R. McLennan, Edmonton (Liberal), who said that the conception of a fixed assessment was not a bonus but an "earned grant" given under conditions bringing revenue into a city.

As the industries would have to build permanent improvements out of their own money and be taxed on these improvements, M. C. McKeen, Lac Ste. Anne (U. F. A.), said the cities were fully safeguarded. The long-term loans would be a bonus to farmers, the S. E. R. scheme and assisted immigration were other forms of bonus for the benefit of certain classes. He approved the bill.

"Where are you going to get the money to make concessions? You are giving away something that does not belong to you," declared F. J. Examiner, Alexandra (U. F. A.). "Somebody will have to pay whenever any special class is exempted. If you bonus your immigrants on the farms and pay them enough, you will have no difficulty in settling the land."

Mr. Brownlee reminded the member that farm buildings are not taxed.

WHY NOT EXEMPT BIG INCOMES, ASKS ENZENAUER

Mr. Enzenauer thought the logical sequel to a bill of this character would be to say "to the man of large capital 'your income shall not be taxed'." If the wealthy were freed from taxation they would come to Alberta.

Mr. Giroux thought some but the city of town taxpayers who under the terms of the bill would have to pass a bylaw by a two-thirds majority, should raise objection to the bill. Its application was their business only.

NOT "THIN END OF WEDGE", SAYS BROWNLEE

Concluding the debate, Mr. Brownlee said he did not think that this bill could be regarded as "the thin end of the wedge". Cities could not negotiate without some provision of this kind, and the necessity for a two-third vote of the qualified electors actually voting on a bylaw was a safeguard. The cities, if some moderate measure was not passed, would be coming to the Legislature to seek bonuses of an undesirable character.

The vote was as follows:

For—Members Greenfield, Brownlee, Reid, Mrs. Parlby, Love, Claypool, Galbraith, Shield, Cornish, Moore, McKeen, Joly, St. Arnaud, Andrews, Buckley, Cook, G. W. Smith, G. N. Johnston, Stringam, Proudfoot, Chanmore, Tebbs, Marshall, Bowen, Mills, Dechene, McLennan, Giroux, Milne.—29.

Against—Members Hoadley, Ross, MacLachlan, Cameron, F. S. Smith, Brown, H. C. Smith, Washburn, Sanders, Enzenauer, Conner, Dr. Stewart, Davidson, Chatterson.—14.

Paired—Henry, for Pearson, against. Heffernan, for; White, against.

REVALUATION OF LANDS OF SOLDIER SETTLERS

On motion of S. G. Tebbs the Assembly unanimously reaffirmed the resolution of 1922 to the effect that farmer ex-soldiers on S. S. B. land are justly entitled to a revaluation of their land, stock and equipment on the basis of the cost of replacement, such readjustment to apply to past payments as well as payments accruing. The resolution urged the Federal Government to

take action, and pledged any desired co-operation by the Provincial Government.

Mr. Tobin pointed out that the soldier settlers had bought their land at peak prices. Farmers with 20 years' experience had found it difficult to meet the conditions of the past few years, and it would have been remarkable if the majority of the soldier settlers could have succeeded.

J. C. Bowen, who seconded, R. Love and M. C. McKeen spoke on the resolution. Mr. Love said he had heard that some 1,500 S. S. B. farms had gone back to the Government, had been re-valuated, and were to be sold to immigrants who had not made any sacrifices during the war, at lower prices than were being paid by the soldiers. This was unfair. The reductions should be retroactive. Every Alberta member at Ottawa, said Mr. McKeen, was doing his best in this matter.

AMENDMENTS TO ELECTION ACT

Amendments to the Election Act were considered in committee of the whole. Most of these are clerical only, Mr. Ross explained. One of the clauses deals with the section which provides that the returning officer add up the number of votes given to each candidate. The amendment provides that the adding may be done before the tenth day after the election and the announcement made on the tenth day. Provision is made for posting voters' lists in city constituencies in a special section. In rural polling subdivisions a candidate or his agent will be permitted, after posting of two copies of the list, and before delivery of the certified copy to the deputy returning officer, to inspect or make a copy of the list, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 10 p.m. daily, except Sunday.

It is made clear that a person whose name is not on the list cannot swear himself on and obtain an advance poll certificate.

DAVIDSON WOULD ELIMINATE ELECTION DEPOSIT

An amendment by W. M. Davidson, to eliminate the election deposit of $100 provided for in the present act, was moved, and will be considered next week.

An act to amend the Hospitals Act, given second reading, clarifies existing provisions as to the effect of a contract between a hospital and a local authority for the care of its residents, and also for the removal of persons from hospitals who should be cared for in a home for incurables, and for payment for their maintenance in the event of non-removal by the local authority.

An amendment to the Mental Diseases Act deals with responsibility for the taking in of patients at a hospital for mental diseases. The bill was given second reading.

A bill to amend the Municipal Hospitals Act provides that a majority shall suffice in a vote on a hospital scheme, instead of two-thirds, as at present, and makes certain other minor amendments. This bill and a bill respecting Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments, were considered in committee. The latter bill provides that a judgment given in another Province may be enforced here by filing the award and serving notice. Provision being made for a defence to be put in by Alberta, if the defendant desires.

Under the terms of a bill to amend the Provincial Relief Act, the provision that chattel mortgages taken to secure money advanced by way of relief do not require renewal if taken in the years 1915, 1916 or 1921, is extended to mortgages since 1922.

DIRECTORS OF U.F.A. AND U.F.W.A. GIVE VALUABLE ASSISTANCE IN POULTRY POOL DRIVE

(Continued from page 1)

Stadnyken, Director for Wetaskiwin, and Mrs. E. Price, U. F. W. A. Director for Camrose, were the special Pool speakers. These meetings covered 128 miles and came in touch with 10 Locals. In these meetings Mrs. Price represented the Poultry Pool, and her expenses were pro-rated to the U. F. W. A. organization work and Poultry Pool.

It is our belief that no one can do this work of getting the required number of contracts as well as our own people can do it for themselves. We believe that the officers of the organization are all loyally doing their bit and endeavoring to carry out the pledge of the last Convention. What we really need and must have is a wave of enthusiasm to go over the Locals. It is said that the orange growers of California were so enthusiastic over their pool and its possibilities that even the children prayed God at night to "bless pops and mama and the Exchange."

"MOTHER" HAS CHANCE TO HELP HERSELF

It is not merely a matter of a few cents a dozen for our eggs that we vision in the possibilities of the Pool, nor the changing of the egg and poultry industry into a profitable one for the whole Province. The egg money from time immemorial has always belonged to Mother to buy herself and the children the little things that mean so much to her. In this respect we are in the Poultry Pool the happiness of human lives involved, a glimmer of hope and better things to come. In a few weeks on "Mother's Day", the whole world will be honoring her for what she has done for others, and wearing a flower as a tribute to her. In this instance, however,—joining the Poultry Pool—Mother must arise and do something for herself. Our farm women asked for the Pool. We believe they will make it a success not only for themselves, but for every other mother and farm woman in the Province.

HEAVY REDUCTIONS IN WATER RATES PROVIDED FOR IN NEW LETHBRIDGE NORTHERN BILL

(Continued from page 6)

ously protesting that they could not meet the charges.

WAS SICK PATIENT ON HANDS OF PROVINCE

"It was evident," said Mr Smith, "that the Province had a sick patient on its hands." A preliminary economic survey of the district was made in 1924, and Dr. John A. Widdon, vice-chairman and secretary of the committee appointed by President Coolidge to review the irrigation situation in the United States, was engaged and presented his report. The bill was an attempt to put into effect as far as possible his recommendations. The provisions of the bill had been carefully considered with the main object always kept in view that there must be a proposal sufficiently attractive to enable us to get settlers and still not interfere unduly with other projects and other lands in the Province awaiting settlement.

ONLY CHANCE TO REDUCE LOSS

"The only chance to reduce our loss is to get the land settled, and the sooner it is all settled the less that loss will be. The bill provides for terms which will enable the water users now in the district to make good under irrigation farming, and enable us to get new settlers who can make good on the surplus lands. In this direction, and in this direction only, seems to lie the road to success.

"There is no blanket writing off of capital charges; the plan is to provide easier terms during the earlier years to the bona fide water user on an economic unit which we call the 'home place'. Later, when he has had time to become established in proper methods, he is to pay more."

WORLD HAS 120 MILLION CO-OPERATORS

There are now 295,000 co-operative organizations in the world, through which 120,000,000 persons carry on co-operative selling or buying, it is said in a special report just issued by the Federal Trade Commission in Washington. In Europe, it is stated, the shock of the European war and post-war adjustment found in the co-operative organizations "in many cases the strongest basis upon which reconstruction could be laid."

"In some of the larger countries of Europe, like the United Kingdom, Germany and France," the report continues, "the consumers' co-operative societies rank among the largest producers and distributors of necessaries of life. In England and in Germany nearly half the population is affiliated with the consumers, wholesale and retail societies."

The net surplus of the English co-operatives in 1922 amounted to £70,000,000, while the Union of Swiss Consumers had a surplus of 16,163,218 Swiss francs in 1921.

Co-operative organizations, through which groups of producers and consumers band themselves together to deal in commercial markets, have become "one of the most prominent features of the economic structure of the world."

Freedom from state interference, and educational efforts have served to allow the large scale development of the co-operative enterprises, the report said. Farmers' co-operatives in the United States, it was suggested, might profitably extend their efforts for more direct marketing of food-stuffs to consumers and wholesale co-operative associations for dealing in agricultural products might be encouraged.

INCREASED EXPORTS TO U. S.

Exports to the value of $5,037,919 during 1924 were made from the Province of Alberta direct to the United States, according to the report of H. C. Hunt, American Consul. This is an increase of $1,324,179 over the previous year. Of the total for 1924, shipments were made from Edmonton district to the value of $2,735,325; from Calgary district exports into the U.S. are valued at $2,197,916, and from Lethbridge district $104,678.

The report shows an increase in the number of cattle shipped from Calgary district, from 1,913 head in 1923 to 11,671 head in 1924; and in the number of hogs from 22 head in 1923 to 5,485 head in 1924. From the Edmonton district the value of cattle exports in 1923 was $36,258 and in 1924 $143,349. Exports of fish, fur and lumber from Edmonton district also show a large increase.

The Philippine Islands imported from Calgary district 206,490 barrels of flour, and from Edmonton district 17,500 lbs. of barley.

U. F. A. COLORS FLYING AT GRANDVIA

D. J. Christie, Strathcona, and W. F. Stevens, of the Livestock Pool, addressed a large meeting at Grandvia recently in the interests of the new co-operative pools. At the conclusion of the meeting a committee of canvassers was appointed, consisting of Frank Sherwood, Clymont; G. H. Tomlinson, Grandvia; Robert Evans, Clymont; Fred Lee, Sam Bailey, D. Brown, F. Brownlee, all of Grandvia. Mrs. M. Brownlee will act as canvasser of the Poultry Pool.

In this district, writes Mr. Stevens in describing the meeting, co-operative operation of a threshing outfit has been tried out with good results. "Under this arrangement each settler undertakes to perform a specified service in threshing the crop of the settlement, and to receive credit therefor at a specified rate on his threshing bill. When the work has been completed accounts are balanced and the necessary adjustments made. The U.F.A. colors are kept flying over the returns." Mrs. Dan Brown is prominently mentioned among the organizers of the system."

LOWEST HOSPITAL COST

An operating cost per patient day of $3.8914 is shown by the annual financial statement of the Red Deer Municipal Hospital. It is stated that this is the lowest of any of the fifteen municipal hospitals now in operation in the Province. The Red Deer hospital closed the year with a balance in the bank, after all expenses for the past year had been met, including debenture payments.

During the year 481 patients were admitted, and 125 major operations performed in the hospital. There was a total of 5,650 hospital days, an increase of 918 over the previous year.

"FRONTIER" LOCAL ORGANIZED

The members of a new Local in the Wilkhorne district elected as officers R. H. Dickinson and R. W. Moore. It was decided to call the Local "Frontier." Sixteen members signed the roll, and slips were chosen for a membership drive to take place immediately.

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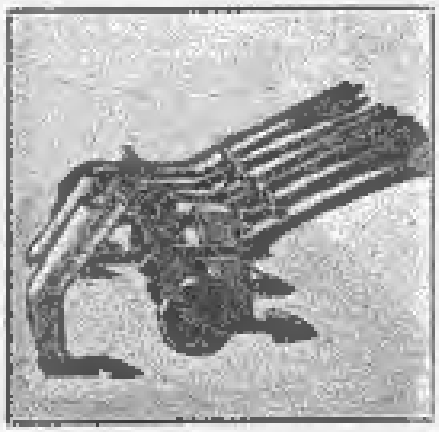

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